

METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR PREPARING A  
DEFINITION TO CONTROL AUTOMATED DATA PROCESSING

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

5 A number of items of data from a data source (12) are  
to be processed, and then supplied to a data destination  
(16-17). Each item of data may be image data, text data,  
numeric data or some other type of data, or a combination  
of these types of data. The processing of each data item  
is controlled by a project definition (14, 71, 101), which  
includes a plurality of modules selected from a variety of  
10 available modules (Tables 1-4). The modules have input  
and output ports which are interrelated by binding  
information. Each project definition can be developed on  
one machine (211, 226), and then transmitted through a  
network (208, 206) to a different location on the network,  
15 where the project definition will be stored and/or executed  
by at least one different machine (212, 221-223).